



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 210**

January Session, 2013

House Bill No. 6327

*House of Representatives, March 27, 2013*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. ROJAS of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES BY MUNICIPALITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 7-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

3 (a) No [municipal corporation] municipality shall employ private  
4 detectives in the investigation or detection of crime at an expense of  
5 more than [five hundred] two thousand dollars unless (1) a specific  
6 appropriation therefor has been made, [nor unless] (2) the authorities  
7 [thereof] of such municipality have first applied to the [state police]  
8 Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services  
9 and Public Protection for assistance in such investigation and waited a  
10 reasonable time for said [state police to act] division to act, and (3) the  
11 authorities of such municipality have given written notice of the hiring  
12 of such private detectives not less than seven business days prior to  
13 such hiring to (A) the police chief of the municipality, if applicable, (B)  
14 the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency

15 Services and Public Protection, and (C) the state's attorney for the  
16 judicial district in which the municipality is located.

17 (b) Any municipal official who violates any provision of subsection  
18 (a) of this section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars and  
19 shall be liable to such municipality in a civil action for the amount  
20 expended in excess of such sum as has been appropriated for such  
21 investigation.

|   |                 |       |
|---|-----------------|-------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                 |       |
| Section 1   | October 1, 2013 | 7-283 |

**PD**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:**

| Municipalities         | Effect | FY 14 \$  | FY 15 \$  |
|------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Various Municipalities | Cost   | Potential | Potential |

**Explanation**

The bill increases, from \$500 to \$2,000, the amount any municipality may spend to employ private detectives without a specific appropriation. It is anticipated that any resulting minimal cost increase will only be incurred to the extent local resources allow.

The bill also requires municipalities that hire private detectives to notify their own police chiefs, the Division of the State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the state's attorney for the judicial district in which the municipality is located. This has no fiscal impact.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6327*****AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES  
BY MUNICIPALITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases, from \$500 to \$2,000, the amount a town can spend to hire a private detective to investigate a crime without (1) making a specific appropriation and (2) seeking assistance from the State Police and waiting a reasonable time for them to act. The bill additionally requires town authorities to give written notice, at least seven business days before hiring a private detective at a cost of more than \$2,000, to:

1. the town's police chief, if applicable;
2. the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; and
3. the state's attorney for the judicial district in which the town is located.

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18      Nay 0      (03/13/2013)